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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

- R Recommended
- Ad Additional book of acceptable quality for collections needing more material in the area.
- M Marginal book that is so slight in content or has so many weaknesses in style or format that it should be given careful consideration before purchase.
- NR Not recommended
- SpC Subject matter or treatment will tend to limit the book to specialized collections.
- SpR A book that will have appeal for the unusual reader only. Recommended for the special few who will read it.

Except for pre-school years, reading range is given for grade rather than for age of child.

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Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Volume XVII

September, 1963

Number 1

New Titles for Children and Young People

- R 6- American Heritage Magazine. Westward on the Oregon Trail; by the editors of American Heritage Magazine; narrative by Marian T. Place; in consultation with Earl Pomeroy. American Heritage, 1962. 153p. illus. American Heritage Junior Library Series). Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

Well-organized, beautifully illustrated, and written in a style that is solid but not heavy, a book that gives a colorful picture of westward movement. The narrator describes the travels of missionaries and of such explorers as Jedediah Smith, whose caravans reached—but did not cross—the mountains. The surge of wagon trains in the era of "Oregon fever" and the settlers who rode other great trails are vividly described; final chapters discuss the gold rush and the rapid development of modes of travel that followed the influx of pioneer settlers: the stagecoach, the pony express, and the transcontinental railroad. A bibliography and an index are appended.

- R 3-6 Anglund, Joan Walsh. Cowboy's Secret Life. Harcourt, 1963. 36p. illus. Trade ed. \$2.25; Library ed. \$2.58 net.

A small book with a minimum of text, the illustrations using, as did Brave Little Cowboy, two colors—one picturing the real activity, the other the imagined scene. The small figure descends . . . "Every morning he would walk downstairs . . ." and pulls a small toy elephant; ponderously, faintly, behind the boy an enormous imaginary elephant follows. Not much to it, but a child can easily see the pretending, and the drawings will beguile Anglund fans.

- M 5-6 Archibald, William. The Magic Blot; written and illus. by William Archibald. Stein and Day, 1963. 31p. \$2.95.

An oversize book with a slight text that seems only a vehicle for the illustrations. A bored child spills some ink; in the ink blot he sees various shapes, and on this the author elaborates, "And is that a mouse? And is that an eye? and . . . look closer! Is that a cat at the top? . . . And what is that? And that? And that?" and so on. The black and white drawings are sophisticated in concept and execution; not appropriate for the very young, and a book too juvenile in format for the older child. The book may have some use in art collections because of the technique of the illustrations, but the ink-blot-plot thread could easily have been dispensed with.

- M 4-6 Bacon, Peggy. The Oddity. Pantheon Books, 1962. 71p. illus. Trade ed. \$3; Library ed. \$3.29 net.

A fanciful fairy tale with contemporary touches. The oddity is Goskin (part bird, part cat) who is stolen from his happy home, where he lives with Mirabelle the witch, her cat and her owl, and her goose Honey, who is Goskin's mother. Captured by a wicked

thief posing as a magician, Goskin is put in the zoo of King Glint; the thief has reached Glint's isolated mountain kingdom by helicopter and has impressed the king with his stolen treasures from the outer world: radio, telescope, flashlight, etc. Mirabelle finally outwits and unmasks the thief, gains freedom for Goskin, and all ends happily. The writing is variable in quality, some of the story moving slowly while other parts are sprightly and often amusing; on the whole, the story line seems over-extended and the book more laboriously conceived than are previous titles by Miss Bacon.

R Bannon, Laura May. Little People of the Night; story and pictures by Laura
4-6 Bannon. Houghton, 1963. 33p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.73 net.
yrs.

A pleasant and gentle read-aloud book, lightly humorous, and with quiet, appropriate illustrations in black, white, and soft greys. Little Joe woke one night to hear odd sounds, about which he questioned several animals the next day. The cat volunteered a guided tour; Joe requested his mother's permission for a night walk, which was granted—with Mama sitting on the porch to wait for him. Joe saw many baby animals he'd never seen before, but soon grew sleepy; home and in bed, he woke again in the night and heard the little people—this time he just smiled and went back to sleep. Reassuring about night noises, with some good information about animals—despite the fact that the domestic ones have conversations with the boy.

Ad Bernstein, Shirley. Making Music: Leonard Bernstein. Encyclopaedia Britan-
6-9 nica, 1963. 192p. illus. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.36 net.

A biography by the conductor's sister, written in a fairly pedestrian style that is compensated for somewhat by the value of familial recollections. The book has an adulatory tone that detracts, especially in its presentation of some pages of Bernstein's fan mail. The photographs are good, the material is interesting, but the tone of writing makes the dramatic and versatile biographee seem less vivid rather than more; in Ewen's Leonard Bernstein (Chilton, 1960) the subject stands out all the more because of the restrained objectivity of the writing.

M Beyer, Ernestine Cobern. The Story of Little-Big; illus. by Vee Guthrie. Reilly
K-2 and Lee, 1962. 48p. \$2.75.

A read-aloud book about a small Indian boy who saw and heard many interesting animals in the woods, but never saw the playmate he hoped to find. One day when he came home, Little-Big was told that he had a baby brother, and he said, ". . . he is only one summer day old. Soon he will get big like me. Then I will show him many wonderful things. I will show him: the frog in the bog . . . the bird in the fog . . ." etcetera, recapitulating the things that Little-Big himself has seen. The repetition will have appeal, but the ending is weak: a baby who will some day be able to play will not necessarily satisfy a child who has been wishing for a playmate. The illustrations are pleasant, although some of the faces do not really look Indian.

R Bleeker, Sonia. The Aztec Indians of Mexico; illus. by Kisa Sasaki. Morrow,
5-8 1963. 160p. \$2.75.

Another volume in the anthropologist-author's excellent series of books about Indian tribes and cultural patterns. The writing is sedate, the material colorful; illustrations give information about architectural detail, clothing, and ceremonial occasions. The text reviews the historical background of the Aztec Empire, the conquest by Spanish explorers, and the Aztec civilization. A final chapter describes the ten million Aztecs living in Mexico today. An index is appended.

R Bonham, Frank. Deepwater Challenge. T. Y. Crowell, 1963. 192p. \$3.50.
7-10

A good adventure story, written with pace and without melodrama; conversation and

characterization are excellent. Cam Walker invests in a fishing boat, hoping to improve the financial situation of the Walkers; Father is bedridden, older brother Steve helps as much as he can. Cam finds that there are risks and losses in diving for abalone, and finds that the competition among seagoing boats is keen. Some of Cam's adventures are dangerous, some are financially discouraging; Cam decides that, with the help of the wise and experienced Aki Shinoda, he can stick it out.

Ad Bonham, Frank. War Beneath the Sea. T. Y. Crowell, 1962. 263p. \$3.75.
6-9

A book about a submarine crew in World War II, with a protagonist who lacks no courage but who hates killing. Keith is the central figure, but the book has no story line beyond the progress of the submarine and its crew through a succession of battles. Background and military details are accurate, characters are believable; the book is, although replete with dramatic incident, slowed here and there by the repetitive pattern of battle scenes, especially in dialogue: "Good. Open the outer doors. Stand by forward. Range-mark." "Three eight double oh." "Set!" "Bearing-mark!" "Zero four five." "Set!" A brief bibliography and a glossary of naval terms are appended.

Ad Brandon, Frances S. Rosie the Rock Hound; illus. by Ruth Van Sciver. Abingdon, 1963. 62p. \$2.50.
3-4

Rosie convinced her mother to give permission for a trip to Grandmother's to get her favorite rock; Rosie was sure the rock would win a prize in the third-grade contest. The odd rock caused a few minor problems (like giving Rosie a very sore toe) before the day of judging, but it won: the university geologist who judged the collection said the rock was a fossil. Rosie had an extra prize: a note expressing gratitude from the boy who had dropped the rock on her foot and had not been blamed. The book gives a good picture of the child whose family situation (working mother, no father, baby brother) has induced self-reliant and cooperative behavior. The writing style is only moderately good, but the story has simplicity and has a good classroom atmosphere. Illustrations are poor, in cartoon-style.

NR Brunhoff, Laurent de. Anatole and His Donkey; tr. from the French by Richard K-1 Howard. Macmillan, 1963. 38p. illus. \$2.95.

A very slight read-aloud picture book. Anatole set out to buy a donkey and accumulated a goat, a toad, an ox, a sheep, and an owl. No donkey could be found, so the other animals left to seek one. Anatole was sad, but when they all returned, followed by a donkey, "Anatole was happy. He kissed the donkey's gray velvet nose." An abrupt ending to a story that seems to have little point.

Ad Bulla, Clyde Robert. The Ring and the Fire; Stories from Wagner's Nibelung Operas; woodcuts by Clare and John Ross. T. Y. Crowell, 1962. 135p.
6-9 \$3.50.

A long fictionalized compilation of stories from Wagner's Nibelung Operas; black-and-white woodcuts illustrate the book with stark pictures that are most appropriate. The author writes with strength and simplicity, but does not quite achieve the style of mythology, in part because of the abrupt effect of the short sentences. For example, "Siegfried thanked the bird for its counsel, and he disappeared into the cave. Mime came out of the woods. He crept forward cautiously until he was sure the dragon was dead. Alberich came out of his hiding place among the rocks. The two gnomes stood face to face. Each fiercely accused the other of seeking to steal the Nibelung hoard." An index, a list of characters, and a selection of themes is appended, each selection consisting of several measures of melodic line.

R Calder-Marshall, Arthur. Lone Wolf; The Story of Jack London; illus. by Biro.

10- Duell, 1962. 167p. \$3.50.

An excellent biography of London, candid and sophisticated, written with an easy style and with assessments of London (as an author and as a man) that are both objective and perceptive. For more mature readers than Franchère's very good biography (reviewed in the January, 1963 Bulletin), which describes London's life only up to the successful publication of The Gold Rush.

R Calhoun, Mary Huiskamp. Honestly, Katie John! pictures by Paul Frame.
5-6 Harper, 1963. 214p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

A third book about Katie John Tucker, as perceptive and sympathetic as the first two. Now in sixth grade, Katie John is appalled by the fact that her friends are becoming boy-conscious and is outraged at the idea that she herself might be considered boy-crazy. Katie almost alienates all her friends before she finally thinks about her problem instead of just reacting emotionally. In every aspect of Katie's story, there is realism: the group behavior in and out of school, the individual shifting reactions of each child to the others, and relationships between parents and pre-adolescent children.

NR Cass, Joan. The Cat Show; pictures by William Stobbs. Abelard-Schuman, 1962.
K-2 39p. \$2.75.

A read-aloud picture book. Two prim maiden ladies take their Siamese cat and her two kittens to be exhibited at a show. When the party stops for a pre-prandial rest, the kittens run off to play. They are found by the combined efforts of the unpedigreed cats of the town, who are en route to visit the cat show. The Siamese kittens win first prize, but a consolation prize goes to the well-behaved kittens of Arabella, the alley cat. The story seems static, embellished with details that contribute little to development of the slim plot. Most of the illustrations are busy and page-filling.

Ad Chandler, Ruth Forbes. Three Trumpets; illus. by Charles Keeping. Abelard-
4-6 Schuman, 1962. 160p. \$3.

Eddie was sure he knew who had stolen his trumpet, but it had come about through his own carelessness; he agreed to earn money to pay for a second instrument. Meanwhile, he developed a burning desire to ride a pony and to own one. Eddie took lessons at a pony farm, went to horse shows, worked and saved; when (in a rather melodramatic episode) the original trumpet was found, Eddie was able to use his savings for a pony to be called "Trumpet." A bit too much plot here, although the writing style is good; there is a sub-plot about a lonely neighbor who marries the widow who runs the pony farm—thanks in part to Eddie—and the sub-plot involving the two boys who are suspected of theft. There is also a good bit of detail of horse shows, not all of which is pertinent to the action. Parent-child relationships are well done, and the conversation is natural.

R Crouse, William Harry. Understanding Science; third ed. rev. and enlarged;
7-12 illus. by Jeanne Bendick and Dabney Mahanes. Whittlesey House, 1963.
224p. \$3.95.

First published in 1948, first revised in 1956, and reviewed in the Bulletin in January, 1957. (Vol. X, No. 5). One new chapter on computers has been added, and most of the original text has been left intact, with additional material being inserted; the index has been expanded. A useful reference tool.

Ad Davidson, Bill. President Kennedy Selects Six Brave Presidents. Harper,
6-8 1962. 96p. illus. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

An unusual compilation of biographical material and political comment. The six former presidents chosen by President Kennedy and described by the author are Washington, John Q. Adams, Lincoln, Johnson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Arthur. The brav-

ery each evidenced is, as discussed by Mr. Davidson, not that which is well-known, but courage of a less familiar kind. Chester Arthur's bravery, for example, was in turning his back on the patronage system of which he had been a prime example, and sacrificing his own political career by helping establish a Civil Service. Illustrations are good, and the writing style is lively and simple. Useful for slow readers in high-school.

R Duvoisin, Roger Antoine. Our Veronica Goes to Petunia's Farm; written and
K-2 illus. by Roger Duvoisin. Knopf, 1962. 33p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed.
\$3.19 net.

A lesson on prejudice, not subtle, but so ingratiatingly given in this read-aloud picture book that it is pleasant to accept. Veronica, a hippopotamus, goes to the farm and is in a state of rapturous anticipation, considering it at first to be a hippo's paradise. The farm animals observe Veronica. A strange ugly creature. Not like any of them, and very much in their way. They keep to themselves, and Veronica—lonelier and lonelier—goes into a decline. Surreptitiously, one by one, the animals visit Veronica; they bring her food and she emerges from her sickbed to find that she is among friends, her beauty obvious in the eyes of her beholders. Light treatment, light humor, attractive illustrations; a good book to read aloud.

M Duvoisin, Roger Antoine. Spring Snow. Knopf, 1963. 26p. illus. \$2.95.
4-6 yrs.

A read-aloud picture book tall tale. Mr. and Mrs. Peppin went out to shovel the farm driveway during a spring snowstorm. They were snowed in—the whole world was snowed in; this made the sun very angry and he shone and shone until all the snow melted and it was spring. A slight book, but the slightness is mitigated by the epilogue, which ends, "It is impossible. Never mind. True stories seldom make good tales." This light tongue-in-cheek humor is echoed in one series of illustrations that show the Peppins and their animals standing quietly while the snow level sinks, stage by stage, around them.

Ad Eberle, Irmengarde. Apple Orchard; illus. by Ezra Jack Keats. Walck, 1962.
3-5 49p. \$3.

A description of an apple orchard through the cycle of a year. The book describes the changes in the trees and the growth of the fruit, but most of the text is devoted to the care of the orchard and to harvesting and marketing of the crop. Simply written and sedate in tone, the book has just a bit of fictional decoration: "After the visiting family has taken all the windfalls they want, the boys and girls play. There is laughing and shouting on the orchard farm." Since the writing is almost all informational, such occasional irrelevancies are mildly obtrusive. Illustrations are pleasant, some supplementing the text, most being just ornamental.

Ad Einstein, Charles. Willie Mays: Coast to Coast Giant. Putnam, 1963. 191p.
5-9 illus. \$3.50.

A rambling, anecdotal account of Willie Mays' career, chronological-with-side-trips. Not biographical, the book barely touches on Mays' childhood or on his personal life. Breezy writing, with little humor save that of the quoted material; the book will interest baseball fans in general and Mays' aficionados in particular—but it is not a full record of Mays' career, partly because of poor organization of material. The adulatory tone seems unnecessary in a book about one of the most popular players of the most popular game, but any book about Willie Mays has inherent drama and vitality.

M Elkin, Benjamin. Lucky and the Giant; illus. by Katherine Evans. Childrens

2-3 Press, 1962. 30p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$1.88 net.

Elmo the Giant had dammed up the brook that watered Lucky's father's crops; Father tried to get his brook back by attempting a giant-size task, but was tricked into seven year's bondage. Mother had the same experience; but Lucky outwitted the giant, won freedom for his parents, restored the brook, and made a friend of the giant. The plot is slight, the action turning on the rather contrived fact that, enroute to matching wits with the giant, Lucky has just happened to pick up and pocket the boxes, the spoon, and the jar of earth needed. Relationships are amicable, the ending is satisfying; illustrations are adequate.

Ad Fenner, Carol. Tigers in the Cellar; story and pictures by Carol Fenner.

K-2 Harcourt, 1963. 26p. Trade ed. \$3; Library ed. \$3.21 net.

A read-aloud book about an imaginative and apprehensive little girl who had trouble getting to sleep at night because she could hear tigers padding about in the cellar. Her mother was patient but firm; the little girl, however, knew there were tigers. She could hear them. She could smell them. One night they came up the stairs and she found them friendly and a bit sad; she and the two tigers sang together. Her mother thought it was only a dream, but the little girl knew better. The illustrations are attractive, the writing style is light and smooth; the weakness in the book is that the story seems to divide into two parts: in the first, an imaginative child is pictured and in the second, the story becomes fanciful, even though it is implicit that the child is dreaming.

M Fletcher, Helen Jill. Adventures in Archaeology; illus. by Dorothy E. Rosen-
7-9 wasser. Bobbs-Merrill, 1962. 216p. \$4.

A survey of archeological discoveries and the cultures about which they give knowledge, a book that is broad in scope but superficial in treatment. The text is divided geographically rather than chronologically, with chapters on the first forgotten civilizations, on Egypt, Asia, Easter Island, Rome and Greece, the Near East, etc. The information is good, illustrations are adequate, glossary and index are extensive. The book is weakened by the writing style, which is dry in tone and abrupt; it is weakened by the organization within chapters into rather brief topics: two pages on Champollion are followed by about a page each on ancient Egyptian art, papyrus, and parchment. A final chapter, "Archeology as a Career," is so brief that it might have been omitted, since it cites no specific sources of information or guidance.

R Flory, Jane. A Tune for the Towpath; written and illus. by Jane Flory.

4-6 Houghton, 1962. 197p. \$3.25.

A good period and family story, set in the mid-nineteenth century in Pennsylvania. Kate, eleven, lives in a house built into the Delaware Canal bank, for her father is lock tender. The action is anecdotal, rather than having a story line, but the book does have a theme: Kate has a hard time maturing enough to get over her prejudice against canallers. Characterization is convincing, and the writing style is easy and lively; the conversation is particularly good, the author having a fine ear for dialogue.

R Fuller, Lois Hamilton. The Jade Jaguar Mystery; stone lithographs by Mel

5-8 Silverman. Abingdon, 1962. 128p. \$3.

A good mystery and adventure story set in pre-Columbian Yucatan. Living near Chichen Itza, thirteen-year-old Tok goes to the city one day with Chel, a clansman, to do some trading; he begins to suspect Chel of hostility and deceit. By chance he discovers the real culprit who has been inciting Chel; he also finds and deciphers a message that threatens the city. Tok gives a warning and saves the people of Chichen Itza from surprise attack. The details of Mayan culture are smoothly incorporated into the writing; the plot develops at good pace, and all aspects of Tok's role in

solving the mystery are credible.

R Galdone, Paul, illus. The Blind Men and the Elephant; John Godfrey Saxe's K-3 version of the famous Indian legend. Whittlesey House, 1963. 29p. \$2.50. A read-aloud picture book, with Saxe's rhyming version of the well-known Indian legend about the six blind men, each of whom had a different impression of the nature of an elephant. The writing style, light and crisp, is nicely matched by the attractive illustrations. The pages alternate, double-spread color, then double-spread black and white. The artist uses space most effectively; the drawings have humor and vitality.

R Gamow, George. A Planet Called Earth. Viking, 1963. 257p. illus. \$5.75. 10-

An exciting book, best suited to the mature reader with some scientific background, but with much to offer any adult or young adult reader. The author, in lucid prose and with occasional delightful humor, ranges with competence through the scientific disciplines, discussing theories of planetary formation, composition of the bodies of our solar system, geologic changes, weather, evolution, the living cell, and the future of the earth. Maps, photographs, and diagrams are excellent; an extensive index is appended.

R Gans, Roma. Birds Eat and Eat and Eat; illus. by Ed Emberley. T. Y. 1-2 Crowell, 1963. 35p. (Let's Read-and-Find-Out Books.) Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.35 net.

A good first book about birds for beginning independent readers, with lively illustrations. The author describes the eating habits of some familiar and fairly ubiquitous birds, and suggests two simple methods of providing food for birds. The text is bland and matter-of-fact; the illustrations have a light humor.

Ad Gottlieb, Robin. So Much Can Happen. Funk and Wagnalls, 1963. 183p. \$2.95. 7-9

Laura Wells, in her freshman year at college, was more interested in dramatics than in men, studies, or girl friends, since she planned to be an actress. She fell in love with Jason, and found she was in conflict about what came first in her life; by the end of the year Laura was no longer convinced that she would be a great actress and she was certain of how much Jason meant to her. Not an unusual college story, but adequately written and deviating in several respects from the formula story: the fat room-mate, urged to diet, stays fat—the love affair is not complicated by rivalry—the girl who is Laura's unscrupulous competitor not only gets the role in the college play, but gets the scholarship to drama school.

NR Graboff, Abner. A Fresh Look at Cats. Watts, 1963. 46p. illus. \$2.50. 3-5 yrs.

A picture book with large double-page spread illustrations, simple in composition and stylized in technique, with a few cartoon touches. The text, in very large print, is slight: it verges here and there on being informational—or humorous—but doesn't quite achieve either; there is no story line. Each picture has a comment or a question: "I've never seen a cat shaving.", "In the dark, cats have lights behind their eyes.", "I can't make my toenails go in and out . . . I tried.", or "I see them crawling very quietly to hear birds sing."

R Grant, Bruce. Know Your Car and How To Drive; Hints and Tips to Stay Alive; 10- illus. by Seymour Fleishman. Rand McNally, 1962. 72p. Cloth ed. \$2.95; Paper ed. \$1.50.

A useful compilation of advice in driver education and in safety education. Format is unattractive, with some pages cluttered by several drawings or diagrams; this is especially distracting because the text is printed in double columns. In addition to information about the construction, operation, and maintenance of an automobile, the text gives safety rules, financial advice, and advice on the purchase of a new or a used car. An index is appended.

M Grice, Frederick. The Secret of the Libyan Caves; illus. by Joan Kiddell-7-9 Monroe. Watts, 1963. 165p. \$2.95.

First published in England under the title The Moving Finger. Kevan de Mierre's father has resigned from the army and becomes interested in archeology through his friendship with Dr. Clennell. Douglas Clennell and Kevan go with their fathers on an African expedition, the older men being convinced that in the Sahara there must be cave paintings. The party becomes involved in mysterious incidents, minor disasters, and in the affairs of an unscrupulous team of art smugglers. The writing is a bit convoluted and slow of pace; occasionally the action becomes melodramatic. The story has two redeeming, albeit minor, features: Kevan, whose rather hostile relationship with his father has been portrayed with sharp realism, comes to a better understanding with Mr. de Mierre; Kevan, who had been contemptuous about natives on his arrival, learns to appreciate and respect the Tuareg.

R Guilloile, Elizabeth. Have You Seen My Brother? illus. by Mary Stevens. 1 Follett, 1962. 29p. (Beginning-To-Read Books.) Trade ed. \$1; Library ed. \$1.14 net.

A very nice book for the beginning independent reader: a simple plot with a switch ending, realistic dialogue, attractive illustrations. Andrew loses his brother but keeps calm; he explains to the various adults that his brother has red hair, freckles, and blue jeans. Nobody has seen him, but a policeman finally takes Andrew to the station. There he stands: red hair, freckles, blue jeans—Andrew's big brother who had come in to look for a lost Andrew.

M Hamill, Lloyd. Let's Go to a National Park; by Lloyd and Rose Hamill; illus. 3-5 by Robin King. Putnam, 1962. 47p. Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$1.86 net.

A book that gives some information about the structure and operation of the system of national parks, and some information about services and facilities within the parks. Much of the information is useful, but the text is written in pedestrian style and gives many details and specific descriptions that do not obtain in all the parks. A one-page glossary is appended; the book is not as useful as Lobsenz's First Book of National Parks, which is indexed and which contains lists of regional offices and of information centers. The coverage of the two books is not quite the same, the Hamill book giving more details of camping facilities, but details which are easily available about individual national parks from information centers.

Ad Harvey, Tad. Exploring Biology; illus. by Lee J. Ames. Doubleday, 1963. 7-10 121p. \$2.95.

An oversize book, covering the whole field of biology, that is authoritatively written and good for browsing, but not usable as reference material because of rambling organization and incomplete coverage. Some of the illustrations are uninformative, but most of the drawings and diagrams are useful. An index is appended.

R Haviland, Virginia. Favorite Fairy Tales Told in Scotland; retold by Virginia 3-6 Haviland; illus. by Adrienne Adams. Little, 1963. 92p. \$2.95.

Six tales are included in an addition to an excellent series; the retelling is direct and simple, the print is large and clear, the illustrations are attractive. Sources for

the tales are cited, and the book should be as useful for storytelling as it is for the individual reader.

Ad Hays, Wilma Pitchford. Little Hawaiian Horse; illus. by Wesley Dennis.
3-4 Little, 1963. 40p. \$2.50.

Keola's father worked on the Parker ranch, and Keola went along to see the annual roundup of three-year-old colts. The boy begged his father to give him the grey colt nobody wanted; he was given the colt, but his father thought the boy was foolish to pick the grey. Proud of his horse, Keola finally won his father's admission that Ko-ko was a smart horse after the rescue of Keola's little sister; Bea's horse had run away, and Ko-ko carried the two safely home through rain and dark, finding a new trail by herself. Not a highly original plot, but simply written and adequately illustrated. The text and the illustrations give a modicum of Hawaiian background; happily, the few Hawaiian words are used in context—a list of definitions being appended.

M Hewett, Anita. The Little White Hen; drawn by William Stobbs. Whittlesey
K-2 House, 1963. 32p. \$2.75.

In folk-tale style, a read-aloud story that describes the tribulations of a white hen. En route to see the king so that she might request him to read what she thought was a letter, the hen picked up a fox, a river, and a fire and carried them in her little brown basket. The letter was ruined by its fellow travelers' imprints; the irritated king decided he'd have the hen for his supper. She escaped, her would-be captors were foiled by fox, river, and fire, and the ashes from the fire turned the hen into a speckled hen. The illustrations have vitality but are overly busy; the story has some good traditional elements, but has a weak turning point and a rather flat ending.

Ad Hitchcock, Alfred, ed. Alfred Hitchcock's Ghostly Gallery; illus. by Fred
7- Banbery. Random House, 1962. 206p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed.
\$4.29 net.

Eleven ghost stories, with a brief and amusing introduction by the compiler, explaining that the book is intended to "frighten and instruct." the authors range from Wells and Stevenson to contemporary writers, most of the material having been published in the 1940's. Three of the tales are by Robert Arthur; none of the stories is superlative, none is poor quality.

M Hoberman, Mary Ann. What Jim Knew; illus. by Norman Hoberman. Little,
K-2 1963. 32p. \$2.75.

A read-aloud picture book with illustrations that have some interesting details of design but are unattractive, particularly in the awkwardness of the human figures. The text—not a story—describes some of the convictions harbored by a small boy about his fantasies. Jim knew that if he ate everything on his plate very fast, and ate like a giant, some day he would turn into the real older brother. Jim knew that he could reach China by digging, reach the sky by bouncing, walk barefoot on clouds. At points the text is confusing, and it does ramble, but some of the imaginative quality of Jim's pretending will be recognized by other young dreamers.

NR Hogan, Inez. Twin Otters and the Indians; story and pictures by Inez Hogan.
5-7 Dutton, 1962. 41p. Trade ed. \$2.25; Library ed. \$2.18 net.
yrs.

Although some information about otters is given, this story is weak in several aspects, and those facts that are given are available elsewhere. Because they flipped and flopped while learning to swim, Mother Otter called the little girl Flip and the boy Flop. Flip and Flop loved to play, in water or out; once they organized an all-forest snow sliding party. They caught fish for an Indian boy in a canoe, then they offered to teach him otter-style fishing; the otters then rode in the canoe, and joined

the Indians at a fish feast, and sat in the wigwam, listening to stories. Poor or erroneous nature concepts that are not mitigated by being either humorous or imaginative.

Ad Holland, Janice, ad. You Never Can Tell; ad. and illus. by Janice Holland.
3-4 Scribner, 1963. 27p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.12 net.

A picture-book adaptation of a Chinese folk tale, based on the translation by Arthur Huemel from The Book of Huai Nan Tzu. The illustrations succeed moderately in achieving a Chinese style. While the book is intended as a picture book, it seems more appropriate, both in vocabulary and in concept, for a somewhat older child. An old farmer lost his horse, and when all the village mourned on his behalf, he smiled and said "You never can tell." Again, when the horse came back followed by another horse, the farmer turned away congratulations with the same answer. When his only son broke a leg, condolences were received with, "You never can tell." All the other young men of the village were taken captive by desert horsemen. Then all the villagers decided that they would imitate the wisdom of the old farmer and receive good and bad news with more equanimity since one never could tell what the outcome would be.

R Horizon Magazine. Heroes of Polar Exploration; narr. by Ralph K. Andrist;
6- in consultation with George J. Dufek. American Heritage, 1962. 153p.
illus. (Horizon Caravel Books.) Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

A good survey of exploration of the Arctic and the Antarctic, profusely illustrated, and much like the American Heritage Junior Library series in format. Here the type is a bit more crowded but the text is set in a broad single column that leaves a wide margin, rather than in the double columns of the Junior Library volumes. The text, sedate in tone and dramatic in content, is chronological in arrangement, surveying polar investigation through the International Geophysical Year. A list of suggestions for further reading is appended; the index uses bold face type to indicate illustrative references.

Ad Hume, Lotta Carswell. Favorite Children's Stories from China and Tibet;
4-6 illus. by Lo Koon-chiu. Tuttle, 1962. 119p. \$3.95.

A collection of folk tales, illustrated with drawings only some of which seem appropriately Oriental in style. The tales have all the universal ingredients and plots: the wife who changes into a fox, the rabbit that outwits larger beasts, the poor girl who loses one slipper as she leaves the ball, magic-clad. The retelling is adequate, but a bit flat in writing style.

M Jacobson, Helen. The First Book of Legendary Beings; pictures by Lewis
5-6 Zacks. Watts, 1962. 53p. \$1.95.

A companion volume to The First Book of Mythical Beasts; here the subjects are human, part-human, or variant-human forms: centaur, fairy, giant, sphinx, mermaid, etc. The book has some variety of coverage but has superficial treatment; it seems odd that only one contemporary tall-tale hero is included (Paul Bunyan) but this is a good example of the random selectivity. Several beings from India are described, but large areas of the world are unrepresented. Illustrations are pedestrian.

M Jeruchim, Cécile. Hello! Do You Know My Name? illus. by Simon Jeruchim.
4-6 Putnam, 1963. 36p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.68 net.
yrs.

A picture book designed to teach recognition of several basic forms: straight line, square, rectangle, and broken line; circle, arc, oval, wavy line, and triangle. The illustrations have a gay simplicity, and the shape being described is clearly identifiable, drawn in heavy black. The text, however, confuses as often as it clarifies. "I'm called a rectangle, I'm used in lots of ways. I'm carried in parades On many

holidays." On the facing page, an identical black outline is filled in with an American flag. "A triangle is fun to be 'Cause then I am a Christmas tree."

Ad Koch, Dorothy Clarke. Monkeys Are Funny That Way; pictures by Don Freeman. K-2 Holiday House, 1962. 25p. \$2.75.

A small child describes her walk with a pet monkey: the monkey climbs a telephone pole and resists every attempt to get him down. A banana is offered as bait . . . Monkey snatches it and goes back up the pole; an enticing box is held up . . . Monkey hops in and hops right out again. When it begins to rain, Monkey comes down; he's been having fun clowning, and his owner explains that monkeys are funny that way. The writing is simple, rather static; there is some humor in the situation, but the plot is slight; the illustrations are mildly pleasant, but are repetitious.

NR Lambert, Janet. Introducing Parri. Dutton, 1962. 191p. \$3.25.

7-9

Parri is fourteen, daughter of Penny Parrish, the actress—heroine of previous Lambert books; living in the country and attending a girls' school, Parri has a happy family life but no friends. Her cousin Dave is her mentor, and Dave has his own problem: he wants to be admitted to West Point, but—due to a childhood history of polio—can't pass the physical. However, all comes right for both Parri and Dave: Parri goes to public school and makes many new friends, Dave is admitted to West Point after he rescues a lost cadet. Most of the action is on a fairly superficial level and in a fairly complacent mood: almost all the characters are upper middle-class, and the book has far too many characters, all of the familial ramifications of Parrish and Jordon families being cited. Dave's determination to overcome his physical handicap is commendable, but his goal is achieved in a rescue so dramatic and fortuitous that the young man achieves his ambition more through contrivance than by perseverance.

Ad Lattimore, Eleanor Frances. The Bittern's Nest; written and illus. by Eleanor Frances Lattimore. 5-6 Morrow, 1962. 127p. \$2.75.

The week-end of her twelfth birthday, Blair had an old friend as a house guest; Debby was thirteen, and she had become quite sophisticated—too much so for Blair's taste. Especially distasteful was Debby's insistence that Blair's mother was involved in a flirtation. To Blair, the flight of a female bittern symbolized maternal desertion, although she hardly voiced this to herself. It was somehow disturbing when the bittern flew away, and it was definitely reassuring to see, after a time, that the mother bird had returned to the nest. A perceptive and honest book, just a bit bland in style for the concepts, and too juvenile in format for the reader who can appreciate the troubled ambivalence of the pre-adolescent. Probably for readers older than the author's usual audience, although the format would indicate that age appeal.

R Lauber, Patricia. The Friendly Dolphins; illus. with photographs; with drawings by Jean Simpson; and with diagrams by Charles Gottlieb. 4-6 Random House, 1963. 81p. (Easy-To-Read Books.) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

A good informational book, neatly organized, simply and competently written, straightforward but not dry in style. The text describes the dolphin and its place in the animal kingdom, discusses the training and testing of dolphins in captivity, and gives some information about individual and group behavior. Photographs are good; a brief index is appended.

Ad Leavitt, Jerome E. America and Its Indians; illus. by Robert Glaubke. 5-8 Childrens Press, 1962. 221p. \$5.50.

An oversize book, profusely and attractively illustrated, that gives several pages of

information about each of the thirty-odd tribes described. The material is divided into descriptions of Indians of the Northwest Coast, of California, of the Southwest, of the Plains, and of the Eastern Woodlands. Within each section, the text is rather rambling in organization and straightforward in treatment. Well done, but neither as comprehensive nor as well-illustrated as Edwin Tunis' Indians (World, 1959). There is no index.

Ad Lingstrom, Freda. Richard's Wheel; illus. by Barry Gurbutt. Roy, 1963.
5-7 157p. \$2.95.

A not-quite-successful merging of fictional framework and good information, the latter being heavily intrusive. Richard, while engaged in a wheel-building project, becomes interested in the history of the wheel; he engages in long and (genuinely) instructive conversations with his family about wheels of the past—interesting material but not realistic conversation. Miss Lingstrom writes well, and her book would be more useful had it less fact or less fiction.

M Livingston, Myra Cohn. I Talk to Elephants! photographs by Isabel Gordon.
4-6 Harcourt, 1962. 42p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.67 net.

yrs.

A compilation of photographs of zoo animals, with brief text in first person; the small girl speaking is in some of the pictures. The format is attractively simple, the photographs are good; neither the idea nor the photography is unusual, however, and the text is a bit dull. "I talk to the lion. Hello, King, I say. You are the biggest in the jungle and the best. Roar for me, King Lion. Roar, roar, roar." or, "I talk to the kangaroo. Why do you sit on your tail, kangaroo? Please jump for me, Jump up high! And I will jump too." There may be questions raised about a photograph in which two children are petting a large snake.

R Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. Paul Revere's Ride; illus. by Paul Galdone.
4-5 T. Y. Crowell, 1963. 25p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.76 net.

A delightfully illustrated edition of the familiar poem from Tales of a Wayside Inn. The artist has captured the still silence of the harbor at night, the hushed urgency of the messenger, the moonlight quiet of a small New England town.

M Longman, Harold. The Wonderful Tree House; illus. by Harry Devlin.
K-2 Parents' Magazine, 1962. 40p. (Reading Readiness Books.) Trade ed.
\$2.75; Library ed. \$2.84 net.

Some nice illustrative work in a read-aloud book with text in limping rhyme, and in mediocre writing style. The brief text and repetitive style give the book some use as supplementary material for reading practice by independent readers in second grade. A child wonders what kind of tree house to have: large castle, small cozy place? A tree frog and a squirrel suggest homes like their own; a wise old bird suggests asking father. Father builds a medium-sized tree house in which the child can imagine he is in any situation he wants.

Ad McGinley, Phyllis Louise. How Mrs. Santa Claus Saved Christmas; drawings
K-2 by Kurt Werth. Lippincott, 1963. 34p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed.
\$2.87 net.

A read-aloud picture book, in sprightly verse with some interpolated prose paragraphs, first published in 1961 in a magazine. Mrs. Santa Claus is depicted as the power behind the throne, remembering the new baby who needs a rattle, reminding Santa that Haverford Jones is pining for a grown-up chemistry set, etc. Santa, irate at his wife's suggestion of change, naps in preparation for his midnight ride, and Mrs. Santa can't wake him, so she puts on his clothes and a false beard and takes his place, saving Christmas. She confesses that she's switched gifts, and Santa

agrees that just this once it was nice to flout tradition, because he can hear appreciative laughter from the world. Nice rhyme, nice rhythm; illustrations are lively and the plot is adequate but rather attenuated; the ending seems a bit of a letdown.

M McKown, Robin. The Ordeal of Anne Devlin. Messner, 1963. 191p. \$2.95.
7-9

A novel about the Irish rebellion of 1798, historically based, focusing on the courageous young housekeeper of Robert Emmet. Privy to Emmet's plans, Anne was jailed for conspiracy; despite the tribulations of three years of imprisonment, she refused to turn informer. The historical background is the most interesting aspect of the book; the heroine is drawn in adulatory terms that detract from the accomplishments of the real Anne Devlin. The writing is florid: "She was an emaciated woman, clad in rags, but there was a dignity about her that direst poverty could not efface." or, "Though several young sons of farmers had cast appraising eyes on her, she had never yet been enmeshed in love's net."

M Marchant, R. A. Beasts of Fact and Fable; illus. by David Pratt. Roy, 1962.
7-9 152p. \$3.

Interesting material, but random organization and a rather heavy writing style. For the most part, the text follows the pattern of the first reports of a peculiar animal being greeted with dubiety, this being followed by corroborating reports, live specimens, and—finally—scientific acceptance. Some of the text deals with legendary creatures such as the abominable snowman; the closing pages discuss the areas of the world where new specimens are most likely to be found today. An index is appended.

M Martin, Patricia Miles. The Lucky Little Porcupine; illus. by Lee Smith.
2-3 Putnam, 1963. 32p. (See and Read Storybooks.) Trade ed. \$2; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

A little porcupine wanders around in the night, looking for friends and food. Lonely Mr. Patchett sees the porcupine and wishes to give him some salt to eat; Mrs. O'Leary, under whose house the porcupine had been sleeping, wishes she had someone with whom to share her apple pies. When Mr. Patchett comes, the next morning, with a bag of salt for the porcupine, the two lonely people become friends. The porcupine decides that he is lucky because he can sleep under Mrs. O'Leary's house during the day, and at night he can go over the hill and have salt with Mr. Patchett. Illustrations vary in technique and quality; the writing provides reading practice for beginners, and it shows kindness to animals, but the plot is both slight and contrived.

R Mason, George Frederick. The Deer Family; written and illus. by George F. Mason. Morrow, 1962. 96p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.78 net.
4-7 Well-organized and simply written, a very good informational book; the author is informal in style and authoritative in presentation of facts. The illustrations are clear, although not all of them are labelled. After a chapter on classification of deer and a chapter describing the growing of antlers, Mr. Mason discusses the varied genera and species, giving range (maps are included), habits, and distinguishing characteristics.

Ad Norton, Andre. Key Out of Time. World, 1963. 224p. \$3.50.
8-10

Another adventure of Time Agents Ross Murdock and Gordon Ashe; here, exploring the planet Hawaika, the agents go back in time ten thousand years. With a Polynesian girl and the dolphins with whom she has deep rapport, Ross and Gordon meet their old enemies, the Baldies, seeking to wrest control of Hawaika. As in other Norton science fantasies, there is a good conception of another civilization, plenty of action, and some factual basis—as in the dolphins. However, the book has so

many groups of peoples, so many complexities of relationships between such groups, and such an accumulation of cliffhanger situations that it seems turgid.

Ad Obligado, George, tr. The Magic Butterfly; And Other Fairy Tales of Central Europe; illus. by Ugo Fontana. Golden Press, 1963. 64p. (Giant Golden Books.) Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$4.99 net.

First published in Italy, an oversize book with breathtakingly beautiful illustrations. The six stories are interesting but rather ornately told, the flavor of the genre being evident in the first sentence in the book, "Of what did the birds sing during the long evenings at the gloomy castle of Poznan?" The page layouts are excellent, the chapter-heading designs are delightful, and the full page or double-page paintings are exquisite in color, design, and mood.

NR Olds, Elizabeth. Little Una; story and pictures by Elizabeth Olds. Scribner, K-2 1963. 31p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.12 net.

"In a faraway place there is a city . . ." begins the text of this read-aloud picture book, but no explanation is given for the faraway place that has produced people whose clothes will be unfamiliar to the child in this country. An appended note explains the book is based on an event in Sao Paulo. The favorite animal in the city zoo was Little Una, the gentle rhinoceros; when the mayor and his council voted to sell Una and put up a statue, the townspeople voted Una in as mayor. The statue was called off, the mayor joined a celebratory parade, and every year after that Little Una was given flowers on election day. Awkward writing style, with a plot line that does not hang together; the actual political incident does not translate well into a subject for a picture book. Illustrations are distractingly busy, with human figures being especially unattractive.

R Parker, Richard. Voyage to Tasmania; illus. by Prudence Seward. Bobbs-5-7 Merrill, 1963. 127p. \$3.50.

Newly orphaned Ray Manser is leaving England to live with relatives in Tasmania. An unhappy eleven-year-old, Ray resents being sent away from home and resists all overtures of friendship or kindness. When a Finnish lad his own age becomes a cabin-mate, Ray finds himself helping Anti talk English. The boys are stranded in Naples when their ship leaves port; they have an interesting experience, and when they rejoin their ship get considerable attention. Ray finds that he is enjoying people and is looking forward to change. Good writing style and characterization; a tight story line, and perceptive depiction of relationships between individuals.

NR Parkinson, Ethelyn M. The Terrible Troubles of Rupert Piper; illus. by Mary 4-6 Stevens. Abingdon, 1963. 111p. \$2.50.

Eleven short stories about activities, in school and out, of a group of sixth graders, told by one of the boys, Rupert. There are some perceptive observations about group behavior, parent-child relations, and the war between the sexes at the pre-adolescent level, but the observations are buried under cute humor and a contrived style. "Girls . . . know how to flip their eyelashes. Also there is never any egg on their dresses." or, "Well, when nobody is looking a guy can stand a hug from a mom like mine. She is a very fine lady." The plots are not unusual: a picnic in which the mothers play an incredibly ignorant variety of baseball (such as calling for a touch-down), a class project of earning money for a Thanksgiving basket, a class hobby show in which a boy wins a prize with a cake. The stories have been published previously in magazines; some of the repetition of humor and phraseology is probably more obtrusive in this collection than it was when the stories were published separately.

R Polland, Madeleine A. The Town across the Water; illus. by Esta Nesbitt.

6-9 Holt, 1963. 175p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.27 net.
Set in Ireland in the sixteenth century; a small Irish village is within the jurisdiction of the mayor of the English-dominated town across the water. The traditional fishing rights of the villagers are being threatened, and two children, Liam and Margaret, become deeply involved in obtaining justice for their people. They also are involved in the rescue of a Spanish sea-captain, a long-time friend of Margaret's father, but considered an enemy by the occupying English soldiers. Fast-paced, tightly knit writing; the period details are unobtrusive and convincing; characterization is good.

R Price, Willard DeMille. The Amazing Mississippi; with 48 pages of photographs. Day, 1963. 188p. \$5.50.
An excellent travel book: informal and varied in style, vividly descriptive and sprinkled with anecdotes and traditional tall tales. Several sections of photographs are bound in. The author describes the course of the river, its history, his own experiences while following its course; he gives a great deal of information about the rivercraft of the past and of the present, and about the people, the problems, the industries, the legend and the lore of the Mississippi.

R Randall, Ruth Elaine (Painter). I Jessie; A Biography of the Girl Who Married John Charles Fremont, Famous Explorer of the West. Little, 1963. 223p. illus. \$3.95.

A good biography of Jessie Benton Fremont, albeit mildly adulatory. As the daughter of a wealthy senator, Jessie Benton was well educated and socially prominent as well as being pretty and lively; her love match with a dashing soldier and explorer provides more drama than would be credible in a work of fiction. The Fremonts lived sometimes in luxurious urban surroundings, sometimes in rude frontier homes. They lived at times honored by the social and political leaders of their day, at times in disgrace or in seclusion. Good writing style, and good—if biased—characterization. The sources for historical details are quoted in a preface by the author; an index is appended.

R Ripley, Elizabeth (Blake). Winslow Homer; A Biography. Lippincott, 1963. 7-10 71p. illus. \$3.50.

Another excellent volume in Mrs. Ripley's series of biographies of artists; the book is profusely illustrated with reproductions (all in black and white) of Homer's work. Wood engravings, lithographs, and watercolors as well as the more familiar later oils are included; several pictures in the volume show scenes of the Civil War. The biography is well-written, the style being easy but straightforward; with print and picture being on facing pages, both have visual advantages. A bibliography and an index are appended.

R Robertson, Keith. Henry Reed's Journey; illus. by Robert McCloskey. Viking, 5-7 1963. 220p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.19 net.

A sequel to Henry Reed, Inc.; again a series of sedate reports on the entertaining adventures of Henry and Midge. With Midge's parents, the two playmasters are driving across the United States; the changing scene affords ample opportunity for attracting trouble. The incidents have just enough exaggeration to be amusing yet remain believable; the writing is convincingly that of a precocious adolescent.

R Rose, Carl. The Crazy Zoo that Dudley Drew; pictures and story by Carl K-2 Rose. Little, 1963. 59p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.97 net.

After a bland start, sheer nonsense. Dudley, after a visit to the zoo, drew animals; they came alive—the huge mouse, the tiny elephant, the one-eyed tiger, the two-legged mackerel, the four-legged turkey and the eight-legged skink. Dudley's mother

banned them from the kitchen they'd invaded, so they all went out for a walk. Condemned by mother to return to oblivion on paper, the animals were delighted when an elderly gentleman bought them from Dudley for a million dollars which he just happened to have along. Dudley visited them later and they all feasted on popcorn regularly. Not unusually inventive, but light and humorous.

R Rounds, Glen. Whitey and the Colt-Killer. Holiday House, 1962. 90p. illus.
4-6 \$2.50.

Whitey and his cousin Josie ride again, this time hunting a wolf that has been attacking livestock. Promised a colt that is recovering from wolfbites, the two feel that they will really have earned the colt if they catch the wolf. By chance, they do—when they find the animal buried under a slide of earth, a bank having given way during a roundup in which Whitey and Josie help put out a range fire. Realistic treatment, easy writing style, believable characters and events.

R Schechter, Betty. The Peaceable Revolution. Houghton, 1963. 243p. illus.
8- \$3.75.

A most interesting book, divided into three parts; the first is an examination (twenty-one pages only) of the life of Henry Thoreau and of his thesis of resistance as presented in "Civil Disobedience." The second, a much longer, section is a fairly extensive biography of Gandhi, candid and discerning; emphasis is on Gandhi's leadership in the peaceful resistance movement. The third part of the book discusses the various evidences of non-violent resistance in the United States today. The writing style is direct and serious; the author's sympathy is expressed with warmth and dignity. A list of suggested readings and an index are appended.

Ad Schlein, Miriam. The Way Mothers Are; pictures by Joe Lasker. Whitman,
3-6 1963. 38p. \$2.75.
yrs.

A reassuring read-aloud conversation between a kitten and his mother, with illustrations that have humor and vitality—although both text and illustrations might as well be humans as felines. The kitten asks how his mother can love him when he is so naughty? She does, she tells him gently, and repeats it when he cites instances of his sins. He then catalogs his good deeds, wondering if she loves him because of those? No, his mother tells him: she loves him even when she doesn't like his behavior, and she loves him no more when his good deeds give her pleasure; she loves him just because he is her child. Gentle and sentimental, a book with which all children can identify, and one which is saved from complete sentimentality by the humor of text and—especially—illustrations.

R Scott, Sally. Jenny and the Wonderful Jeep; pictures by Beth Krush. Harcourt,
3-4 1963. 47p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.63 net.

Nicely illustrated, a brief and satisfying story about a Glorious Event for a small girl. Jenny woke, on the first day of spring vacation, hoping she would be permitted by Billy and Donald to help them work on their tree house. They were going on a no-girls picnic. The very little girl next door, Catherine, wanted to play; Jenny, sulky by now, refused. Jenny's mother was uncooperative. Then Mother's younger brother came on a surprise visit, and offered Jenny a jeep ride. Everything changed: Jenny, kindly now, invited Catherine. They went for a ride through the woods and—supreme joy—were seen and envied by Billy and Donald. Very realistic in reflecting the moods and relationships of the characters, lightly humorous, and lively in writing style.

R Sellman, Roger Raymond. The First World War; maps by the author. Cri-
9- terion Books, 1962. 160p. \$3.50.

A revised and enlarged version of the title first published in Great Britain; comprehensive, detailed, written in a serious, heavy, and dry style and written with objectivity. The text is broken down into brief topics; the photographs are interesting and the many maps are most useful. Mr. Sellman gives good background history and explores the behind-the-front trends, the impact of new weapons, and the implications of the war's outcome. A long and carefully compiled relative index is appended, as are a list of suggestions for further reading and chronological list of events.

R Simon, Tony. The Search for Planet X; illus. by Ed Malsberg. Basic, 1962. 6-9 118p. \$3.75.

Written in a straightforward but informal style, a description of the long years of patient hunting for Pluto, the outermost planet. The author gives some historical background for planetary research, with emphasis on the contribution of Lowell that paved the way for Clyde Tombaugh's discovery of Pluto in 1930. Astronomical material is simply presented; diagrams and photographs are very good, save for some awkward figure-drawings that give no information and might have been better omitted. A bibliography, a glossary, and an index are appended.

Ad Softly, Barbara. Place Mill; illus. by Shirley Hughes. St. Martin's, 1963. 7-9 190p. \$3.25.

A story set in England in 1651 after the battle of Worcester; its protagonists are young Royalist partisans who hope to escape to France. Nicholas Lambert, after six years in the Royalist Army, returns with two other fugitives to his old home; his thirteen-year-old sister, Katharine, seems to him undependable and even untrustworthy. Katharine, after being kept prisoner by a cruel woman, escapes to sanctuary in a Royalist home—Place Mill—where the miller is suspiciously well-educated; she helps save the lives of Nicholas and his friend, and she is vindicated. Her brother decides to stay in England and operate Place Mill with Katharine. Good historical and political background and suspenseful episodes; the book is weakened by the fact that so much of the intrigue is based on Nicholas' distrust of his sister, an attitude for which he has little justification.

R Southall, Ivan. Hills End. St. Martin's, 1963. 174p. illus. \$3.75. 6-9

A good adventure story, set in Australia, about a group of children who share a danger that tests their stamina and their ingenuity. While exploring a cave with their teacher, seven youngsters find that a flooded river has inundated their town; Hills End had been emptied, fortunately, by a mass exodus to an annual picnic. The children come back from the caves to chaos; they make many mistakes, but common sense and courage help them to help each other and to organize for survival and rehabilitation. The background and characterization are good; the plot is dramatic and tight-knit; the author uses—most successfully—the technique of moving from one character to another to create suspense.

M Sperry, J. E. The Challenge of Aab; chapter decorations by the author. 7-9 Harper, 1962. 216p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

The story of an orangutan community in Borneo; Aab, grandson of the chief, was not like the other youths. He was a thinker and experimenter; he became friendly with some humans and was increasingly suspected by the tribe. Vindicated in the end, Aab became the new chief. An unusual story: it parallels human behavior in the group's suspicion of the "different" one, in the difficult acceptance of a leader with different values. Good style and a sympathetic creation of characters, but the almost-complete transference of apes into humans as far as conversation, emotions, thought processes, and motivations are concerned doesn't quite come off. Had the author used primitive men, rather than orangutans, the story would seem stronger.

Grandfather " . . . was caught between the desire to encourage the unusual intelligence he believed Aab possessed and the sense of foreboding that the youth's superiority, when developed, might be uncongenial to his place and time." "Tearing at his outer garments with gnashing teeth, he thought of his mother and father and all the hapless members of his tribe . . . " "Tuv found it harder than he expected to quarrel with the friendly youth, but he was determined to avoid the risk of competing with Aab. So he started on a campaign to annoy and discredit the young leader at every opportunity."

R Spicer, Dorothy Gladys. 13 Witches; 2 Wizards, the Devil and a Pack of Goblins; illus. by Sofia. Coward-McCann, 1963. 93p. \$3.50.
From several countries, thirteen stories about witches, most of the tales being of English or Dutch origin. The illustrations are attractive and appropriate; the stories have variety and are retold in good fairy tale style. The book should be useful as a source for storytelling; there are no notes to indicate the authenticity of the legends.

M Spilka, Arnold. Aloha from Bobby. Walck, 1962. 32p. illus. \$3.50.
5-7 yrs.

A read-aloud picture book with attractive illustrations: alternate sets of black and white and of pastel facing pages. The text is used as a pretext for a series of facts about Hawaii; Bobby wants to send his uncle a drawing, and he considers a surfer, a coconut tree, a volcano, etc. At last he paints his own pet goose. The dialogue is heavily colloquial for so brief a text.

M Steiner, Charlotte. The Fitfiddles Keep Fit; written and illus. by Charlotte K-2 Steiner. Knopf, 1963. 27p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.99 net.
Papa Fitfiddle, a medal-bearing athlete, was father of a large family of rabbits, all of whom participated in a physical fitness program—except the youngest. Bunny, the baby, was exempted from exertion and coddled by his mother. One day a man with a net threatened capture, and all the rabbits were able to get away except Bunny. Rescued by his siblings, Bunny began to exercise, and next time there was a jumping contest, Bunny won. A good cause, a slight tale.

R Straus, Richard. Coal, Steel, Atoms and Trade; The Challenge of Uniting Europe. Coward-McCann, 1962. 121p. illus. \$2.95.
The author, formerly Public Affairs Adviser for the State Department's Office of European Regional Affairs, after describing the chaos in Europe at the end of World War II, discusses the several measures in the development (before 1963) toward economic unity. Included in these are the Marshall Plan, the Organization of European Economic Cooperation, the Schuman Plan, the European Free Trade Association, Euratom, Benelux, the European Monetary Agreement, and the Common Market. A very useful and interesting book, with careful analyses of the European prospects for prosperity and of the problems facing the United States in relation to the growing strength of the Common Market countries.

NR Styles, Showell. Midshipman Quinn and Denise the Spy. Vanguard, 1963.
7-9 182p. \$3.

The third junior novel about the sixteen-year-old exponent of derring-do in the manner of the Scarlet Pimpernel. An officer under Nelson, Quinn is taken prisoner by the French along with a French girl who is working against Napoleon. Trials and tribulations galore accumulate, with the wily Quinn extracting himself and Denise from one contretemps after another. The readers of adventure stories may enjoy *Midshipman Quinn*, but for those who are not addicted to the genre, there seems to be a superabundance of action. The writing is often elaborate and the conversation

stilted; it is unfortunate that the book contains a stereotypical Jewish character: Denise tells Monsieur Aaron that they wish to change some gold coins. "The old Jew's scowl changed to a genial smile at the mention of gold, and he stood back to let them enter."

M Surplus, Robert W. Follow the Leader; The Story of Conducting; illus. by 5-6 George Overlie. Lerner, 1962. 41p. \$2.75.

Although the book contains many facts about the development of the art of conducting and about the role of the conductor, the writing style is so weak that the usefulness of the book is severely limited. The author uses generalizations, digressions, and occasional folksy comment to the reader; the tone of the writing is patronizing.

R Sutton, Ann. Exploring with the Bartrams; by Ann and Myron Sutton; illus. by 6- Paula A. Hutchison with additional photographs, including William Bartram's original drawings. Rand McNally, 1963. 224p. \$3.95.

A good book for the general reader and a fascinating one for the reader with special interest in botany or in American wild life. John Bartram, self-taught botanist, Quaker and nature lover, was appointed His Majesty's Botanist for the Colonies in 1765. Bartram's son William shared his father's interests and eventually travelled and wrote even more than had the elder Bartram, his observations and his drawings contributing much new and valuable information about the flora and fauna of the southeast and about the Indian tribes of that region. The book gives wonderful information about plants and animals and about Indians; the Bartrams are well-characterized; the illustrations and maps are good, those by William Bartram being superb in their meticulous detail. A bibliography and a good index are appended.

R Syme, Ronald. African Traveler; The Story of Mary Kingsley; illus. by 6-9 Jacqueline Tones. Morrow, 1962. 191p. \$2.95.

A good book about the indomitable Victorian lady who travelled alone through West Africa, exploring and collecting specimens. Mary Kingsley's remarkable journeys are described simply, all of the drama being in her true story. Not as detailed as Minier's The Lady in the Jungle (Macrae, 1961), but graphic in descriptive passages. A bibliography—including Mary Kingsley's own Travels in West Africa—is appended.

R Trease, Geoffrey. Follow My Black Plume. Vanguard, 1963. 253p. \$3. 8-10

Sent to Italy with his tutor by an overprotective and domineering grandmother, Mark Apperly meets two young Italian patriots en route. Young Tessa is a firebrand, and her brother Pietro is dedicated to the cause of a United Italy. Dodging his tutor, Mark meets Mazzini and Garibaldi and becomes involved in their campaign; Mark takes part in the unsuccessful military action. At the close of the book, he has faith that Garibaldi's promised return will achieve the united nation for which Pietro has given his life, and he feels a new self-confidence about facing his grandmother as a man rather than a boy. Good background, good characterization, good writing style.

Ad Treece, Henry. War Dog; illus. by Roger Payne. Criterion Books, 1963. 6-8 120p. \$3.

Set in Britain during the time of the Roman invasion. When his master was killed in battle, Bran was nursed back to health by a Roman, Marcus Titus; the devoted dog went with Marcus Titus, and with the captive British princess whom he later wed, back to Rome. There the old war dog lived in peace with the humans he adored. The historical background is fascinating, the period details are of interest, and the plot is restrained. The book is weakened by the rather sentimental and florid writing, especially in the ascription of human, or near-human thought processes to Bran. "In the dog's heart there was a glow of pleasure that he and Bel should be with Gwyn,

and the King at this time." (Bel is a horse.) Another example, "They were Gauls—of that he was sure. He had smelled Gauls before, when they had come to the market at Camoldunum in the time of Cymbeline, to trade their rough red wine for oysters and horse-hides."

NR Tudor, Bethany. Gooseberry Lane. Lippincott, 1963. 34p. illus. Trade ed. 4-6 \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.69 net. yrs.

A picture book with sweetly pretty pastel illustrations of two little plush ducklings who lived in a cardboard house. When the house was rained on, Samuel and Samantha packed up to look for a new place to live. They found an already-tenanted wooden box; an owl who lived there agreed to give them the house if they would build him an attic room and if Samantha would bake him pies once in awhile. The other tenant, a "blue and green Gweek," was given a spare bedroom and they all settled down happily together. A very slight story, quite unimaginative and written in a dull style.

M Wayne, Harry Randolph. Here Comes Jimmy! Here Comes Jimmy's Dog! with 1-2 pictures by Cary. Holt, 1963. 22p. \$1.95.

A book for beginning independent readers, more a useful story for supplementary reading practice than an interesting tale. Jimmy's dog follows him to school; twice his parents come to take the dog home. The third time, the teacher refuses to let Jimmy call home, telling him that he must learn to take care of his own dog. Jimmy tells Dog to go home, and the animal obeys. Slight and repetitive, with a touch of humor in the illustrations, which are magazine-art style. There seems, even in a book with controlled vocabulary, no reason for the curt "Dog" rather than a name or the use of "the dog."

Ad Weber, Lenora (Mattingly). Something Borrowed, Something Blue. T. Y. 7-9 Crowell, 1963. 301p. \$3.75.

The durable Beany is wed, but only after she has suffered through a disruptive situation with her imperious step-grandmother, Nonna. Nonna, whose job is putting on fashionable weddings, decides to give Beany an unforgettable wedding as her present. The bridegroom becomes increasingly irritated by the elaborateness of Nonna's plans. Beany's family is annoyed, her friends are uneasy, and Beany herself—especially after her brother and her oldest friend are suddenly and quietly wed—decides that she is making everybody unhappy. She has a wedding at which all of the staff and the children from the settlement house participate. A bit slow of pace, and a few too many characters; warm family relationships and good values, but quite sentimental.

M Wyler, Rose. Prove It! by Rose Wyler and Gerald Ames; pictures by 2-3 Talivaldis Stubis. Harper, 1963. 64p. (I Can Read Books.) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

A compilation of home demonstrations that illustrate science phenomena. While some of the examples given do corroborate statements made in the text, there are several examples of inadequate explanations of phenomena and many examples which do not, despite the title, attempt to "prove" anything. For instance, a wet coat dries. "The water goes into the air. It turns into a dry gas. You cannot see this gas, but it is in the air. The puddle will dry up, too, and the water will go into the air." Each demonstration is treated very briefly and simply in an attractively-illustrated double-page spread. The explanations are simple and the demonstrations may well stimulate an interest in science phenomena, but the superficiality of some of the explanations weakens the book. A piece of paper will sink first in soapy water, "Why? The soapy water wets him (a paper figure) faster. It is wetter water."

Reading for Librarians

- Alabama State Department of Education. Pupil Library Assistants in the School Library; Why, Who, What, How. 20p. \$1. A manual; obtainable from the department, Montgomery, Alabama.
- Free Library of Philadelphia. Children's Books; Reference and Research Collections of The Free Library of Philadelphia. 16p. A single copy of the brochure will be sent to those who send a 4-1/4 x 9-1/2 self-addressed envelope and ten-cent stamp. Write to: Office of Work with Children, The Free Library of Philadelphia, Logan Square, Philadelphia 3, Pa.
- Gaver, Mary Virginia. Every Child Needs a School Library. 1962 edition. 16p. 5 copies, \$1.25; 10 copies, \$2; 25 copies, \$3.75; 50 copies, \$6.50; 100 copies, \$12. American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.
- Goodrich, Catherine. "The Many Faces of Aloneness." Elementary English, February 1963, pp. 135-141.
- Huus, Helen. "Developing Taste in Literature in the Elementary Grades." Elementary English; Part I, December 1962, pp. 780-789; Part II, January 1963, pp. 56-67.
- Joll, Leonard. "Developing Taste in Literature in the Junior High School." Elementary English, February 1963, pp. 183-188.
- Kegler, Stanley and Dunning, Stephen. "Conversation with a Writer." The English Journal, May 1963, pp. 398-400; an interview with Anne Emery.
- Kennon, Mary Frances and Doyle, Leila Ann. Planning the School Library Development; a report of the School Library Development Project, AASL. 89p. \$1. From the ALA Publishing Department, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.
- Klineberg, Otto. "Life Is Fun in a Smiling, Fair-Skinned World." Saturday Review, February 16, 1963. Reprints are \$.10; available from the American Jewish Committee, Institute of Human Relations, 165 E. 56th Street, New York 22, New York.
- Merryman, Donald. "Using Trade Books with Superior Children." Elementary English, March 1963, pp. 248-250.
- Mills, Robert and Richardson, Jean. "What Do Publishers Mean by 'Grade Level'?" The Reading Teacher, March 1963, pp. 359-362.
- Shankman, Florence. "Developing Permanent Reading Interests in Children." Elementary English, April 1963, pp. 411-414.
- Sizemore, Robert. "Reading Interests in Junior High School." Education, April 1963, pp. 473-479.
- Viguers, Ruth Hill. "Not Recommended." The Horn Book Magazine, February 1963, pp. 76-78.
- Wilson, H. W., firm. Standard Catalog for High School Libraries; 1963 supplement to the 8th edition, 1962. Edited by Rachel Shor and Estelle A. Fidell. 114p. Service basis.

